Shatabdi/Superfast train for Khajuraho

†1789. SHRI GANGA CHARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the measures being taken by Railways to make the journey of tourists convenient to the world famous Khajuraho tourist spot in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether Government proposes to start Shatabdi or other superfast train from Delhi to Khajuraho;

(c) if so, by when the said train would be started;

(d) whether Government has formulated any new scheme this year to provide proper boarding and lodging facilities to foreign tourists apart from making their journey convenient to promote foreign tourists; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED) : (a) Khajuraho has been connected by rail recently. The passenger amenities have been provided as per norms.

(b) and (c) Hazrat Nizamuddin-Khajuraho Link Express is providing direct service between Delhi and Khajuraho. At present, there is no proposal to start any additional train between Delhi and Khajuraho.

(d) and (e) There is no separate scheme for foreign tourists. However, Khajuraho has been identified for development of a Multi-functional Complex, which may have a budget hotel.

Railway projects in Jharkhand

1790. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of railway projects for new lines, doubling, gauge conversion and electrification being undertaken in Jharkhand;

(b) the present status of these projects;

(c) whether any time frame exists for completion of these projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED) : (a) to (d) 7 New Lines, 1 Gauge Conversion and 8 Doubling Project are in progress in the State of Jharkhand. 3 Railway Electrification projects have been completed. The works are progressing as per availability of resources. Details of Projects, with targets wherever fixed, are as under:-

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.